



State of Utah
Department of
Environmental Quality
Division of Solid and
Hazardous Waste

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Inside this issue:

New Used Oil Regulations	2
Used Oil Outreach Activities	2
New Used Oil Transporters	2
Used Oil Survey	2
Used Oil Collection Update	3
	4

Facts at a Glance

Re-refining used oil takes only about one-third the energy of refining crude oil to lubricant quality.

It takes 42 gallons of crude oil, but only one gallon of used oil, to produce 2.5 quarts of new, high-quality lubricating oil.

One gallon of used oil processed for fuel contains about 140,000 British Thermal Units (BTUs) of energy.

The Used Oil Drip

Fall 2008

Division Staff Present Study at NORA Mid-year Meeting in Rhode Island

Oil samples are normally collected by Division staff during used oil facility inspections to verify that used oil being sold as burner fuel meets regulatory requirements for either 'on-specification' or 'off-specification' used oil. In early 2000, it was discovered that splits of the same sample sent to different labs for analysis produced considerably different reported analytical values. In 2004, based on these observations, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Used Oil Program staff, with the Department of Health (DOH) Laboratory, implemented a small test that sent used oil samples "spiked" with known concentrations of heavy metals (cadmium, arsenic, lead and chromium) and PCBs to three Utah labs. The used oil analysis by all three labs produced conflicting results. To try and understand why the reported values were so different, a more statistically significant study (Phase I) was undertaken in 2006. This study was performed by Dr. Steven Butala, with the DOH Lab, and Dr. H. Dennis Tolley, nationally renowned statistician and professor at Brigham Young University.

The Phase I study involved sending spiked and blank used oil challenge samples to eight nationally recognized labs (two voluntary labs) that perform used oil analyses on a regular basis. Each laboratory was sent blanks and spiked used oil samples at different concentrations for heavy metals and two regulatory concentrations of PCBs as a double-blind study. Analytical results obtained were very discouraging and supported results of earlier performance testing at Utah-only labs and independently published results. Used Oil Program staff presented the findings of the study at the June 18, 2008 mid-year NORA conference in Providence, Rhode Island. NORA is a trade association representing nearly 200 national companies in the liquid recycling industries such as used oil, antifreeze and waste water recycling.

In summary, the detailed Phase I study confirmed the earlier preliminary thoughts resulting from the Utah specific study that current routine analytical testing performed by labs on used oil tend to produce unreliable analytical results. However, it is still not known if this is due to the current EPA approved used oil test methods and if the EPA methods need to be modified to produce better analytical results, or if the unreliable results are due to poor individual lab procedures and processes. If additional funding can be obtained, NORA, other stakeholders and the DEQ Used Oil Program would like to develop and implement a Phase II study which would better define the cause of these discouraging analytical results and propose a solution to the problem.

For more information concerning the study, please contact Cheryl Prawl or Blake Robertson at (801) 538-6170.

New Financial Responsibility Regulations for Permitted Used Oil Facilities in Effect

The Solid and Hazardous Waste Control Board approved changes to the Used Oil Management Rules (R315-15) regarding financial responsibility for used oil facilities at its March 13, 2008 meeting. The overall intent of the changes was to update and clarify the used oil rules and make them more consistent with other Division programs. Also, the Used Oil Management Act specified certain requirements that were overlooked in the original rules.

The regulated community and their counsel requested clarification and more specific wording to standardize the various financial assurance mechanisms and assist in streamlining the permit application process.

R315-15-1 added the definition of "financial responsibility." R315-15-10 establishes types and specific amounts of third party pollution liability coverage for sudden and non-sudden used oil releases. Clean up and closure cost requirements are more explicit in the amended R315-15-11 and detailed financial assurance requirements are specified in R315-15-12. The required standardized wording for each of the different accepted financial assurance mechanisms is outlined in the new rule R315-15-17.

The rules and new financial assurance forms may be found on the Division's web page at <http://www.usedoil.utah.gov/UsedOilSection.htm>. For questions, please contact Cheryl Prawl or Blake Robertson at (801) 538-6170.

New Permitted Used Oil Transporters

The Executive Secretary of the Solid and Hazardous Waste Control Board recently issued used oil transporter permits to the following companies to collect and transport used oil in the state of Utah.

Commercial Fuel Recycling, LLC
7336 Coral Ct.
Nampa, ID 83687
(208) 465-5296

Triad Transport, Inc.
P.O. Box 818
McAlester, OK 74502
(918) 426-4751

Triad Transport has a local Utah facility located at 721 W. Center St., in North Salt Lake, UT, Ph. (801) 936-6393.

A permit application is currently being processed for the following used oil transporter, with main offices in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Veolia ES Technical Solutions, LLC
709 North Taylor Way, Suite 1
North Salt Lake, UT 84054
(801) 294-7111

A listing of all permitted used oil transporters may be found on the Division's web page at www.usedoil.utah.gov/PermittedUsedOilFacilities.

Used Oil Survey Results

The Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste worked with Dan Jones and Associates to design and conduct a telephone survey on recycling attitudes and actions. The calls, completed in August 2008, resulted in 803 respondents, with 76% of the people from urban areas and 24% from rural Utah. Respondents were 49% male and 51% female. Ideologically, 49% considered themselves to be Conservative, 32% Moderate, 12% Liberal, and 13% refused to disclose their personal viewpoint. A variety of ages, education and income levels were represented. Home owners comprised 91% of the respondents, 64% lived in their community for more than 10 years and 98% owned at least one vehicle. The overall error rate was +/- 3.5%.

The survey asked questions regarding the importance of recycling and how attitudes toward recycling have changed during the past five years. The survey asked if there was a recycling program in their community, if it was accessible, if they are currently recycling, and what kinds of items are they recycling. People were asked if they would be willing to pay a fee for recycling electronic equipment and if their community had a place to take household hazardous waste, or not. The survey also questioned if people changed their own motor oil or took it to a service center, how often they had their oil changed, and if they knew where they could take used oil for recycling.

The survey results showed that general support for recycling is very high across the demographic categories and that access to recycling is improving. However, there was an expressed need for more recycling, especially glass. There was also a voiced willingness to pay a fee for recycling old electronics as well as a widespread need for recycling household hazardous wastes. Only a relatively small percentage of the population currently change their own oil, but many said that they may do it in the future due to economic issues and higher service charges.

Most of the comments received were supportive of recycling and expressed concerns that the program should be easy and more accessible and that glass should be accepted. People wanted to be kept up to date regarding recycling programs with explanations about fees and associated costs. The majority of individuals preferred community organized recycling programs with some State provided assistance and oversight to help the programs to be more efficient.

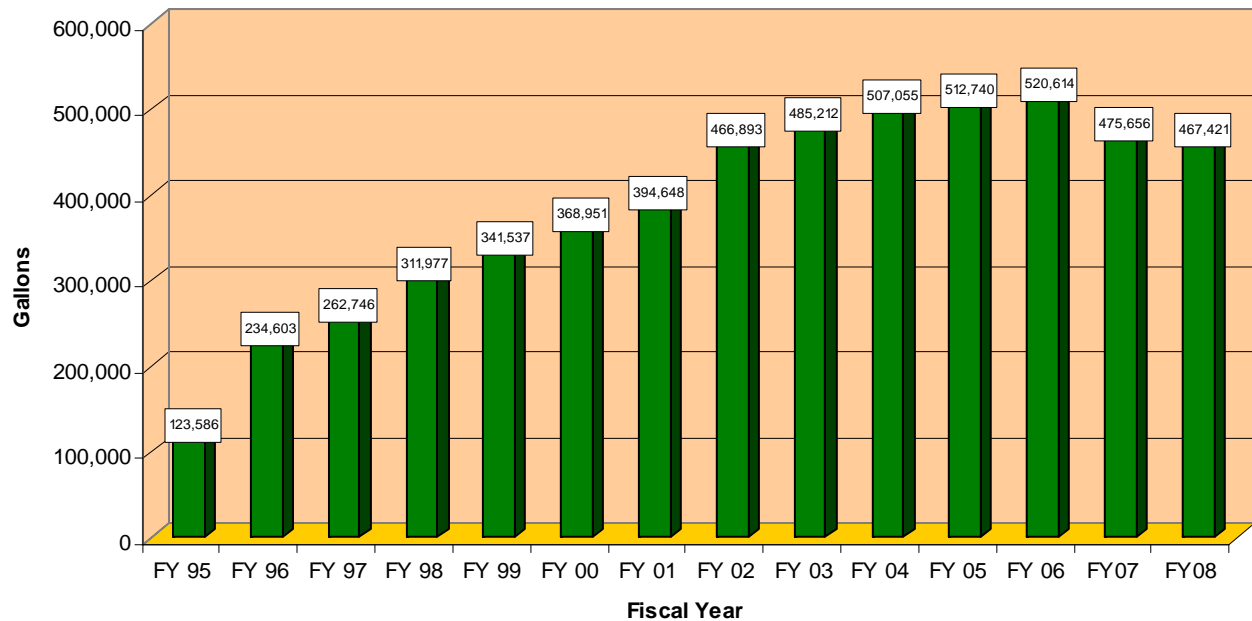
The results of the survey may be viewed on the Division's web page at www.hazardouswaste.utah.gov/recycling_survey_2008.pdf. For additional information or questions regarding recycling programs, please contact Sam Schroyer at (801) 538-6170, or e-mail him at sschroyer@utah.gov.



Utah Used Oil Collection Update

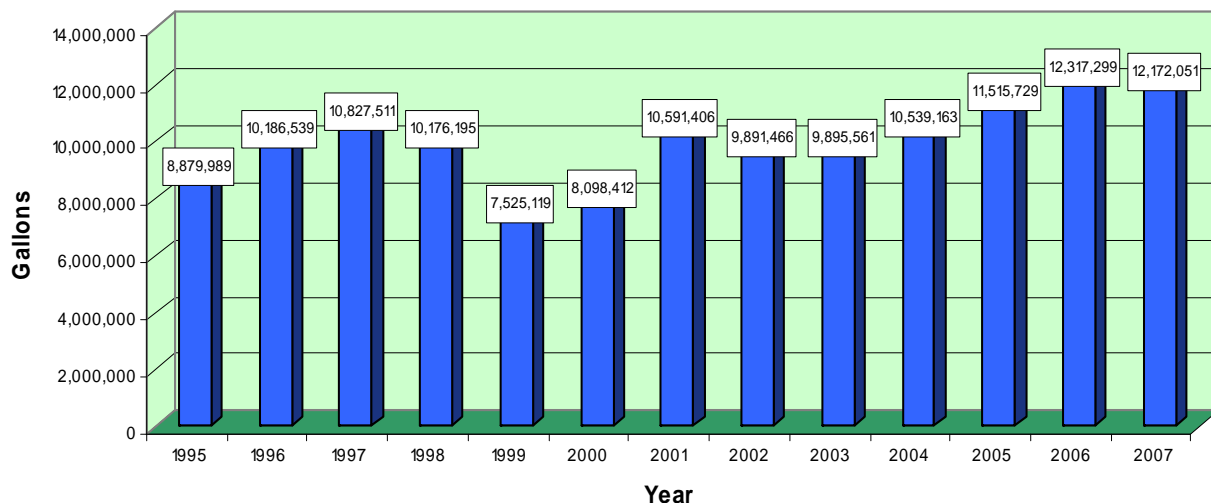
Although used oil collection totals are slightly below the previous period, reports received by the Division indicate a fairly constant level for used oil collection, both Do-It-Yourself (DIYer) and used oil collection from businesses. The total DIYer used oil collection for FY 08 should increase and be available later this year as the Division receives additional collection center reports for the final quarter. The total used oil collection for calendar year 2008 will be available after the required annual reports are submitted by Utah's permitted used oil facilities on March 1, 2009.

Utah DIYer Used Oil Collection



Total Utah Used Oil Collected

(Includes DIYer Used Oil)



The Used Oil Drip



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Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste Used Oil Program Update

During the past year Utah's Used Oil Program has been working diligently with Jodi Okumura and Bob Shipman, of the State IT staff, to develop a new used oil database. The new database, which should be up and running by the end of the year, is more user friendly, and will allow the used oil staff to be more efficient in tracking used oil information relating to collection centers, facility permits and registrations, complaints, grants, and equipment inventories.

The used oil staff has also been revising the various permit application forms to help applicants better understand the requirements. Having all of the required information in the initial submission will greatly lessen the time necessary to complete the approval process, which also has a required 15 day public comment period.

The Division revised the 2007 annual used oil handler report forms in an effort to simplify them, but after reviewing the information submitted by the permitted used oil facilities in March 2008, it appeared that some confusion still remained. So, the Division will make some minor modifications for the 2008 annual used oil handler report to, hopefully, clear up the misunderstanding of what information that is required.

Since the Used Oil Management Rules (R315-15) were first implemented, the Division has found that certain portions of the regulations needed to be either clarified to become more understandable, or modified to become more workable. The used oil staff has been in the process of rewriting those portions of the regulations that have produced some headaches for not only the Division, but the regulated used oil community. Rather than making changes in a piece-meal manner, the Division is trying to present all of the changes in a single package. Hopefully, these changes will be available for public comment sometime early next year.



**Put Used Oil
in Its Place!**